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APRIL 1964

In course of May 12-13 weekend meetings with Thompson and Salinger, Khrushchev made following statements on Germany/Berlin and disarmament, as set forth in somewhat doctored Soviet transcript passed to US Embassy.

Khrushchev noted mood in US appears to be developing in better direction, indicating this applies everywhere, including West Germany. Said if succeeded in normalizing situation in West Berlin would be a very good thing and if not we will find ourselves on the verge of a very great test UNQTE. Khrushchev noted US declares it has to insure freedom of population West Berlin ergo must find mutually acceptable system to continue social system of West Berlin. QTE West Berlin is not needed by us UNQTE.

Arbitration Commission proposed as International Organization not to control access. Only GDR as sovereign state can exercise this control as it already does for 95 percent of transportation to West Berlin. Arbitration Commission would exist to settle controversies. Thirteen States composition does not suit Soviets. Object particularly to inclusion West Berlin. Can be no agreement on West Berlin including Arbitration Commission if West insists upon continued presence

Western troops

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Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

The Secretary

Clearances:

S/S

Mr. Little

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762.00/5-2262

762.00/221

600.00/2

June 25, 1961

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Western troops in West Berlin. Would then have to act without Western agreement and sign peace treaty with GDR. QTE Situation is such that we cannot postpone its (peace treaty) signing any further UNQTE. (Latter statement not said by Khrushchev but added to transcript.) This will entail serious sharpening of our relations. Soviets will not recognize any Western right to maintain its troops in West Berlin. Peace treaty would guarantee completely free access.

Referring to SATURDAY EVENING POST article, quoting alleged Presidential remarks that US would use nuclear weapons first, Khrushchev said does not know how relations with Kennedy will develop. QTE Key is in hands of President Kennedy UNQTE. Salinger referring to his authorized White House statement on the article said it was incorrectly understood. That US would use nuclear weapons first only if US or Allies were attacked. Khrushchev responded President said something quite different.

Khrushchev said Soviets searching for solution to guarantee peace without loss of moral prestige on each side. Noted much in common in US-USSR positions. Noting US insistence regarding maintaining Allied troops in West Berlin Khrushchev reviewed previous Soviet proposals. Noted that first was keeping symbolic contingents of US, UK, French and Soviet troops in West Berlin. Said not now insisting on this. Second Soviet proposal was to have Allied troops replaced by UN or neutral troops for a limited three to five year period. Then made new proposal that symbolic troop contingents from NATO and Warsaw Pact countries on equal basis replace Allied forces in West Berlin for three to five year period. Countries mentioned were Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

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Recalled President's statement at Vienna that Berlin and other problems were inherited from previous leaders. Said Soviets cannot agree with present situation. If new proposal regarding NATO-Warsaw troops did not suit US, is forced to think that US simply does not want compromise solution but prefers to maintain the old outlived occupation regime. Then the Soviets will be forced to stand firm.

Referring to US nuclear tests Khrushchev queried whether US really wants disarmament saying Soviets did want to reach an agreement. Khrushchev said Soviets would agree cease testing only on condition that control is carried out with aid of national means of detection and will not tolerate any sort of control posts before realization of GCD.

FYI Should subject this telegram be raised by Chancellor during discussion with Under Secretary, you should stress that no substantive discussion took place in Moscow and we assume that Khrushchev's points indicate line which will be taken by Dobrynin in future discussions with Secretary. END FYI

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